

INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Meeting of Fukien Model Heroes

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- On 2 July 1951 the Fukien Military Area (FMA) and the Army Group held their first meeting of representatives of Model Heroes (英雄模範代表) in all armed force units under their control at Foochow. Those attending included commander YEH Fei (葉飛), political commissar CHANG Ting-ch'eng (張鼎丞), deputy political commissar LIU P'ei-shan (劉培志), political department head CHOU Shu (周樹), 135 Model Heroes representing the 25, 28, 29, and 30 Armies, the provincial military district's Supply and Service Command, and various other armed units, public security units and militia units. This meeting lasted for ten days and adjourned on 11 July.
- A comprehensive appraisal was made of results achieved in exterminating guerillas, coastal defense, amphibious training, land reform, and suppression of counter-revolutionaries. In addition, acclaim was given to the heroic achievements of the 135 Model Heroes.
- CH'EN I's cable of congratulations was read on the third day of the meeting. In this cable CH'EN urged them all, as Model Heroes, to set examples and exert their leadership in training troops to build a strong, modern national defense force, as well as coastal defense operations and campaigns to eliminate pirates. He also said they face a hard fight to complete successfully the liberation of Chinmen and Taiwan.
- The 135 representatives attending the meeting elected 20 of their number who were then named Combat Heroes of the FMA, Combat Heroes in Anti-Bandit Campaigns, or Model Workers (or Officers) of the Armed Forces. YEH Fei personally presented awards to these persons.
- LIU P'ei-shan, at the final session of the meeting, called upon all present to intensify troop training for the Chinmen and Taiwan liberation as soon as they returned to their units. He emphasized the necessity of their knowing fully how to repulse any aggressive landings which might be made by the "American imperialists and the Taiwan remnant bandits."

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6. The FMA headquarters called a meeting of military leaders under its command immediately upon the conclusion of the conference of Model Heroes. This meeting was held at the Literary Drama Theater on Eastern Street, in Foochow city. Daily sessions were held between 7 PM. and 11 PM. from 27 July to 1 August. Seventy-four persons attended, including army, divisional and regimental commanders, political commissars, heads of military training organizations, and commanders and political commissars of the military regions.
7. The problems discussed during this meeting were: (a) final appraisal of the troop training work for the first half of 1951; (b) final appraisal of the campaign for exterminating scattered bandits during the first half of 1951; (c) review of the recruiting and training of local militia units; and (d) review of construction of defense works throughout Fukien. Toward the end of the meeting, the discussion turned to the Chinmen situation. Those present reached the conclusion that, under the present circumstances, it is necessary to annihilate the Nationalist remnants along the coast in order to safeguard the Fukien seacoast. They all expressed a willingness to struggle for the liberation of Chinmen and Matsu (馬祖) Islands.

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1. [REDACTED] Comment. It is common practice among the Chinese Communists to make a general appraisal of achievement upon completing one mission, before they begin the next. At these meetings Model Heroes are usually elected to encourage officers and men to undertake their new assignments with greater zeal. The meeting described above is an indication that the anti-bandit campaign (which has been going on for two years) is now being concluded. The new mission, of course, is the liberation of Chinmen and Taiwan.

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2. [REDACTED] Comment. It can be concluded from the discussion at this meeting that the Chinese Communists are waiting for an opportunity to attack Chinmen and Matsu Islands. However, no Chinese Communist activities to mobilize support for such an attack have yet become apparent in the Foochow area. Consequently, it can be concluded that such an attack will not occur within the next month or two.

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